



WLVN Meeting – Tuesday 14th February, 2023 at 13.00

Attendees: Maureen Colquhoun (Advice Shop), Linden Raeburn(Advice Shop), Rosie Bunce (Macmillan@West Lothian/Advice Shop), Ann Holloway(Change, Grow, Live), Tracy Kerr (VSGWL), Elizabeth Campbell(HCL Transport), Claire Garton(NHS Lothian), Alastair Ramsay (CAB West Lothian), Rachel Lee (OPAL), Patricia Henderson (CoWL), Rosemary Sleith (Open Door), Hayley Burton(VSGWL), Lyndsey Sherriden(SSS), Judith Richardson (Neils Hugs)

Guest Speaker: John Mclay West Lothian Credit Union

Apologies: noted with thanks.

Agenda Points:	Minutes:	Action/By:
1. Welcome & Apologies	Linden chaired the meeting and welcomed all. .	
2. Previous minutes and actions	Previous minutes were approved with one amendment to the date of the March meeting. Tracy thanked all that had completed the WLVN survey so far and asked that those who hadn't completed it to do so as soon as possible. Action - Tracy to amend the date on previous minutes and send to VSGWL to publish on the website.	Tracy
3. Guest Speaker	John Mclay West Lothian Credit Union spoke about the credit union and how it can help in communities.	
3. Next meeting chair and minute taker	Lesley Balaj will chair the meeting and Linden Raeburn will take the minutes. April minutes will be done by Claire Garton	
4. Volunteer Manager Event	There is currently no update however Tracy and Linden will meet with Ray who will be joining the Gateway as Development Officer for Volunteering and Governance to develop a further plan.	Tracy & Linden
5. Brief Service Updates	All services gave an update which are not minuted however any updates that are to be shared can be sent to the mailbox wlvolunteernetwork@gmail.com	
7. TSSG Update	Anne gave an update on the report provided to TSSG. Full minutes of TSSG meetings can be found on VSGWL website www.voluntarysectorgateway.org/working-together/third-sector-strategy-group/ Anne is unable to attend the next TSSG meeting on Thursday 23 February on behalf of WLVN. Anyone willing to attend on behalf of WLVN should get in touch wlvolunteernetowrk@gmail.com .	All
8. WLVN Celebration	A sub group met directly after the WLVN main meeting to discuss the details of the celebration. All are welcome to be a part of the sub group who will meet again after the next WLVN meeting in March. Main points agreed were <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed date - Thursday 22 June 12-2pm 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Food - Afternoon tea ● Entertainment - pass the parcel and source 1 other entertainer. Include pipers again ● Proposed limit of 5 volunteers per organisation/100 volunteers in total ● Raffle prizes (will be referred to as thank you prizes) can be handed into Bathgate Partnership Centre on Wednesdays for the attention of Rosie/Maureen or Linden. 	
9. AOB	The “Big Help Out” is a national event planned for Monday 8th May. To be discussed at the next meeting to establish how WLVN can be involved. https://thebighelpout.org.uk/	
	<p>Dates of next meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tuesday 14th March @ 1.00pm ● Tuesday 18th April @ 1.00pm ● Tuesday 16th May @ 1.00pm <p>All meetings will be hybrid either in person at The Gateway, 20-22 King Street, Bathgate, EH48 1AX or on Teams. Joining details are on the calendar invitations and reminders of dates posted on our social media channels. If you do not already follow the social media channels, please do so:</p> <p>West Lothian Volunteer Network (WLVN)</p>  <p>https://www.facebook.com/WestLothianVN https://twitter.com/WestLothianVN</p>	

Service Updates submitted for circulation

Social Security Scotland Update

Please sign up to our stakeholder newsletter. <https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/>

Social Security Scotland – People urged to ensure they are not missing out on benefits:

Low Income Families, people with long term health conditions and their Carers may be eligible for Social Security Payments. Find out more at [Benefits and grants - mygov.scot](https://www.mygov.scot/benefits) or by calling free on 0800 182 2222.

*Our Local Delivery service can provide advice or support with making an application over the phone, by video, home visit or at the below venues **(by appointment only)**. Please call 0800 182 222 to book*

Fauldhouse Partnership Centre Bi-weekly Monday 13:30 to 16:30

Bathgate Partnership Centre Every Tuesday 13:30 to 16:30

Strathbrock community centre Every Wednesday 09:30 to 12:30

Polbeth Community Hub Bi - weekly Thursday 09:30 to 12:30

West Calder Community Hub

Bi-weekly Thursday 09:30 to 12:30

Livingston North Partnership Centre

Bi-weekly Friday 09:30 to 12:30

A guide to our current Social Security Scotland benefits can be found [here](#)

The Scottish Government's Cost Of Living website provides additional information and support for people who need urgent help with money, food or fuel [Cost of living crisis - Cost of Living Support Scotland \(campaign.gov.scot\)](#)

Benefits and grants [Benefits and grants - mygov.scot](#)

Includes information on the Scottish Welfare Fund, Self-Isolation Support Grant, Child Benefit and tax credits.

HCL Transport Update

We are currently celebrating our 40th Birthday year and we will be having events and activities throughout 2023 to mark the occasion. There will be a history of Handicabs Lothian the first 40 years published, it will be available on our Website later in 2023 . We have already started with surprise gift bags for some passengers "picked out of the hat "across all of our journeys including West Lothian ,have a look on our social media.

We also have a new Fundraising and Marketing manager Dolina Gorman who can be contacted at:
Dolina.gorman@handicabs.org.uk